(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) According to 1981 census, the literacy rate amongst scheduled tribes was 16.35% for all age-groups. The literacy rate for the scheduled tribes according to 1991 census is not yet available.

(b) Universalisation of elementary education including non-formal education and the national Literacy to 80.00 miliion adult illiterates in the 15-35 age-group by 1995 forms an integral part of a larger programme of eradication of illiteracy in the country with special emphasis on the tribal and educationally backward areas.

(c) There has been a substantial increase in the enrollment of children belonging to scheduled tribes at all levels and particularly at the primary stage, which has increased from 22.8 lakhs in 1964-65 to 76.00 lakhs in 1988-89, which worked out to a growth rate of 5.1 as against the All India average growth of 2.9.

(d) and (e) A number of steps have been taken to strengthen the basis of educational programmes for the scheduled tribes. These include priority to tribal areas in the matter of opening of adult educatldn and non-formal education centres and coverage under 'Operation blackboard'; provision of educational institutions in are as predominantly inhabited by this community; provision of incentives like, scholarships, free studentships mid-day meals, uniforms, books and stationery; reservation of seats in educational institutions of higher learning; remedial and special coaching in these institutions; provision of coaching classes for competitive examination; preparation of text books, primes etc. in tribal languages through the Central Institute of Indian languages, the National Council of Educational Research and Training and the State Resource Centres of adlut education etc; post matric scholarships; and assistance to state government for construction of hotels and ashram schools.

(f) Does not arise.

Hunting of elephants in Jalpaiguri

2012. SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL Will the MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:-

(a) whether hunting of wild elephants has been permitted in Udlabadi area of Jaipaiguri of West Bengal,

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the number of elephants or other wild animals killed during this year, and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to check the killings in this area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Hunting of elephant is banned throughout the country. Permission can, however, be given by Chief Warden for hunting of such elephants that become dangerous to human life, in exercise of powers under Section 11 (1) (a) of the Wild Life (protection) Act, 1972. In the current financial year one such elephant was permitted to be hunted in the area around Udlabadi in Jalpaiguri district of West Bengal. No other wild animals have been killed in this area during this financial year.

(c) Steps taken to check the killing of wild animals are:-

(i) Hunting of wild animals has been banned in the country.

(ii) Trade in rare and endangered

species of wild animals has been banned.

(iii) The trade of other species is regulated strictly according to the conditions of a trade licence under the provisions of Wild Life (Protection) Act. International trade in wild life products of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild fauna and Flora of which India is a member.

(iv) Government of India has created Regional offices and sub-regional offices to monitor and control International trade in wildlife products.

(v) Financial assistance is provided to state Government to strengthen their anti-poaching infrastructure under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Control of poaching and illegal Trade in Wildlife".

(vi) The Wild Life(Protection) Act. 1972 has been amended. Penalties for poaching and illegal trade have been suitable enhanced.

(vii) Transport of wildlife products without orders from the authorised officer has been made punishable offence.

Factory at Bhatni Junction

2013. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to set up a factory to manufacture spare parts, on the vacant land belonging to railways at Bhatni Junction on Eastern Railway; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Wildlife sanctuary in Garhwal region

2014. SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government have received some complaints regarding wildlife sanctuary in Garhwal region;

(b) if so, the nature of these complaints;

(c) the number of persons and cattle killed and injured seriously in this region by the wild animals of the sanctuary duting the last two years;

(d) whether compensation has been given to the dependents of the deceased and injured persons;

(e) if not, the reasons therefore; and

(f) the action being taken by the Government for checking such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.